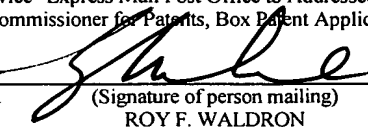


"EXPRESS MAIL" LABEL NO. EL 162 814 379 US, Date of Deposit: January 3, 2001. I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By

  
(Signature of person mailing)

ROY F. WALDRON

(Typed or printed name of person)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: F. Ito et al.

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

APPLICATION NO.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

FILING DATE: Concurrently Herewith

TITLE: BENZIMIDAZOLE COMPOUNDS AS  
ORL1-RECEPTOR AGONISTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, Applicants request entry of the following amendment:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, line 2, please insert the following text: -- This application claims the benefit  
of U.S. provisional patent application Ser. No. 60/174,542, filed January 5, 2000. --

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to include priority data as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.78. This amendment adds no new matter to the present application. A favorable response is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

1/3/2001



Roy F. Waldron

Attorney for Applicant(s)

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